REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA AND RECORD OF ACTION

August 31, 1999

FROM: **JOHN D. GOSS,** Interim Director Land Use Services Department

SUBJECT: CONTRACT WITH GERALD E. HILLIER, dba PUBLIC LAND USERS

SERVICES FOR PROFESSIONAL PLANNING, ENVIRONMENTAL AND

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES REGARDING PUBLIC LANDS

RECOMMENDATION: **APPROVE** contract with Public Land Users Services, San Bernardino, California, not to exceed \$100,000, for professional planning, environmental and legislative services regarding public lands from September 1, 1999 through June 30, 2000.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Land Use Services Department generally has a need for professional planning, environmental and legislative services for issues involving public lands located in the desert area of San Bernardino County. Due to the high workload associated with these services and because a level of expertise not possessed by existing staff is required, the Department's existing staff cannot accomplish these services. On July 27, 1999, the Board of Supervisors approved a recommendation from the Land Use Services Department that a Request for Proposals (RFP) be issued to solicit bids for this contract.

The scope of services requested by the RFP included, but was not limited to:

- I. Representing the County of San Bernardino in the monitoring and analyzing of proposals in several bio-region planning efforts in the County, including:
 - a. The Northern and Eastern Mojave Plan, including the Mojave Preserve General Management Plan;
 - b. The Western Mojave Plan, including the Ft. Irwin proposed base expansion; and
 - c. The Northern and Eastern Colorado Plan, including the area south of I-40 and east of 29-Palms Marine Base.
- 2. Representing the County before a number of formal and informal agencies concerned with public lands including, but not limited to, the:
 - a. Bureau of Land Management Advisory Council;
 - b. National Park Service Advisory Commission associated with the Mojave National Preserve:
 - c. Joshua Tree Commission;
 - d. Death Valley National Park Commission; and
 - e. Mojave Desert Mining Advisory Council.

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3. Representing the County and providing legislative services on issues of importance to the County, including Endangered Species Act reform, Mining Law reform, corrections to the California Desert Protection Act, and potential amendments to National Park and Wilderness boundaries.

An open advertising notice of the RFP was published for general response in The Sun newspaper on August 2, 1999. In addition, the RFP was direct mailed to nine local consulting firms that were known to meet the necessary experience qualifications to perform the duties of the contract. Three firms submitted proposals to provide the necessary consulting services.

Interviews of the proposing consulting firms were held, and the final selection was made by a four member selection committee on August 23, 1999, in accordance with the procedures outlined in County Policy 11-11 and implemented by Standard Practice 11-11SP.

REVIEW BY OTHERS: This item was reviewed by Deputy County Counsel Robin Cochran on August 24, 1999, Land Use Services Department Contract Compliance Coordinator Don Casalman on August 23, 1999.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: The Board approved appropriations for this contract in the Land Use Services Department's FY 1999-00 budget.

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT (S): 1, 3

PRESENTER: John D. Goss